

**TRANSPORT OF HIGH-BANDWIDTH DATASTREAMS OVER AN
OPTICAL NETWORK**

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for transporting information over a network is disclosed. The method includes decomposing a datastream into a number of sub-streams, and communicating the sub-streams between a first network element and a second network element of the network by transporting each one of the sub-streams over one of a number of channels. The bandwidth of the datastream is greater than a bandwidth of any one of the channels.